

From: Frances Burmeister
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am absolutely convinced that the settlement recently arrived at between the Microsoft, DOJ, and nine states is more than sufficiently harsh to cover any improper competitive practices they may have used.

It is also critical to consider the enormous good that Microsoft has achieved for not only millions of consumers but also thousands and thousands of business. Microsoft provides top quality applications which have provided benefit to many many users over the years. In addition, by providing a solid, widely accepted development environment, it has made it possible for thousands of small businesses to grow, flourish, and prosper. I work for one such company and am far more concerned about the serious damage to our business and those thousands of others if Microsoft is restrained from innovating or is so harshly punished that they cannot afford to continue their top quality development efforts.

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